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ONLY**TCS-1453-63-KH
7 May 1963Copy No. 3

MEMORANDUM FOR: Executive Director, NPIC

SUBJECT : Status Report on Utilization of the IBM 1401
and Remington Rand 490 ComputersREFERENCE : Memorandum of 1 April 1963, same subject, from
Executive Director, NPIC to Chiefs, CSD & TID,
and PADS

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1. Attached are two staff studies explaining the present status and future plans for the two computer systems in NPIC and listing additional equipment required for operations of the Collateral Support Division. A memorandum to the Office of Logistics thru the Chairman, CIA ADP Committee requesting rental of this equipment is forwarded separately for your signature.

2. The paper on the Remington Rand 490 system shows that the development time and the ultimate equipment utilization is far more extensive than originally visualized.

3. When rental of the two computer systems was approved by the CIA Automatic Data Processing Committee, it was stipulated that conversion of the 1401 be studied and, if possible, accomplished at the earliest practicable moment.

4. The study cannot profitably be undertaken at this time. The major reasons are:

a. It is too early to forecast the demand volume for either system. This is especially true for community demands; exploratory discussions in this area with CIA components and representatives of the newly-established Defense Intelligence Agency are just beginning.

b. Any immediate attempt to transfer Collateral Support Division (CSD) computer activities to the Remington Rand 490 system will delay the schedule of the Technical Intelligence Division for development of the real-time mensuration system. Conversely, NPIC immediate reporting requirements cannot tolerate the delays necessary to train programmers and reprogram the 1401 applications on the 490.

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c. Changes in the collection systems will have a major effect on the 490 system, requiring extensive reprogramming. Several new systems are already in late stages of development.

d. Although the real-time mensuration response will probably take no more than five percent of the available time on the 490 system, batch programs necessary to prepare for the real-time capability are more time consuming than originally anticipated (because a more accurate method is now planned). It is possible that TID applications may require up to 80 percent of the available time on the 490 system.

e. It has already been found that some major computer activities of CSD and TID peak at the same time. This eliminates simple time sharing of one computer and requires careful evaluation of the details of each such program to determine the possibilities for overlap.

5. We therefore recommend that immediate consideration be given to the CSD request for additional equipment and that the question of ultimate convergence of the two systems be deferred until the 490 photo measurement system is in operation and the items in paragraph 4 above become definitive. We believe the deferral should be for a minimum of two years and that four years is more likely.

CHIEF, CSD

CHIEF, TID

R&DS

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Attachments:

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1. TCS-1454-63-KH
2. TCS-1404-63-KH

Distribution:

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